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A/RES/54/183
29 February 2000

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 116 (*c*)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/54/605/Add.3)*]

54/183. Situation of human rights in Kosovo

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] the International Covenants on Human Rights[2] and other human rights instruments,

Bearing in mind Security Council resolutions 1160 (1998) of 31 March 1998, 1199 (1998) of 23 September 1998, 1203 (1998) of 24 October 1998, 1239 (1999) of 14 May 1999 and 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999, and the general principles annexed to that resolution, as well as the statement made on 24 March 1998 by the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights at the fifty-fourth session of the Commission,[3] Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1998/79 of 22 April 1998[4] and 1999/2 of 13 April 1999[5] and the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to the Bureau of the Commission on the situation of human rights in Kosovo of 7 September 1999,

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[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[3] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. III, sect. E, para. 28.

[4] Ibid., chap. II, sect. A.

[5] Ibid., *1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

Recalling, against the background of years of repression, intolerance and violence in Kosovo, the challenge to build a multi-ethnic society on the basis of substantial autonomy, respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), pending final settlement in accordance with Security Council resolution 1244 (1999),

Taking fully into account the regional dimensions of the crisis in Kosovo, in particular with regard to the human rights and humanitarian situation and the continuing problems in that regard, and noting that the return of refugees to their homes has contributed to the easing of this crisis,

Taking note with concern of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro),[6] which describes the persistent and grave violations and abuses of human rights and international humanitarian law in Kosovo,

Condemning the grave violations of human rights in Kosovo that affected ethnic Albanians prior to the arrival of personnel of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo and troops of the international security presence, the Kosovo Force, as demonstrated in the many reports of torture, indiscriminate and widespread shelling, mass forced displacement of civilians, summary executions and illegal detention of ethnic Albanians in Kosovo by the Yugoslav police and military,

Deeply concerned, in spite of the efforts of the Mission and the Force, about the frequent instances of harassment, periodic kidnapping and murder of ethnic Serb, Roma and other minorities of Kosovo by ethnic Albanian extremists,

Expressing concern that the entire population of Kosovo has been affected by the conflict, and stressing that all of the national minorities there must benefit from their full and equal rights,

Stressing, in this context, the importance of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991,

Distressed by the lack of due process in the trials in Serbia of the ethnic Albanians who have been detained, charged or brought to trial in relation to the crisis in Kosovo in violation of international human rights standards,

Stressing the urgent need to implement effective measures to stop trafficking in women and children,

1. *Underlines* the obligation of the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to abide by the terms of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and the general principles on the political solution to the Kosovo crisis adopted on 6 May 1999 and annexed to that resolution;

2. *Reaffirms* that the human rights and humanitarian crisis in Kosovo shall be addressed within the framework of a political solution based upon the general principles annexed to Security Council resolution 1244 (1999);

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[6] A/54/396–S/1999/1000 and Add.1.

3. *Welcomes* the establishment of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo and the Kosovo Force, and calls upon all parties in Kosovo and the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to cooperate fully with the Mission and the Force in the fulfilment of their respective mandates;

4. *Also welcomes* the work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Kosovo and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the efforts of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

5. *Calls upon* all parties in Kosovo to cooperate with the Mission in ensuring full respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms and democratic norms in Kosovo;

6. *Calls upon* all authorities in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), the local Serb leaders in Kosovo and the leaders of the Albanian community in Kosovo to condemn all acts of terrorism, sequestration or kidnapping and forced eviction from homes or places of work of any resident of Kosovo, whatever the ethnic background of the victim and whoever the perpetrators, to refrain from all acts of violence and to use their influence and leadership to cooperate with the Force and the Mission in stopping these incidents and in bringing the perpetrators to justice;

7. *Expresses its concern* about the forced division of any part of Kosovo into ethnic cantons or ethnically based divisions of any type, which is counter to Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and to the guiding principles of Rambouillet,[7] and stresses the need for all parties in Kosovo to take all necessary measures to stop or reverse any action that de facto or *de jure* permits such ethnic cantonization;

8. *Calls upon* all parties, in particular the authorities and representatives of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and the Kosovar Serb and Albanian leaderships, to cooperate with the Mine Action Coordination Centre;

9. *Demands* that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) provide an updated list of all persons detained and transferred from Kosovo to other parts of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), specifying the charge, if any, under which each individual is detained, and that it guarantee their families and non-governmental organizations and international observers unimpeded and regular access to those who remain in detention and release all individuals detained and transferred from Kosovo prior to July 1999 in violation of international humanitarian and human rights standards;

10. *Calls upon* the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to open to public observation trials or criminal prosecutions against all those charged in relation to the conflict in Kosovo;

11. *Calls upon* the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and ethnic Kosovar Serb and Albanian representatives to allow for and to facilitate the free and unhindered return to their homes, in safety and with dignity, of all displaced persons and refugees, of whichever ethnic background, and expresses its concern about reports of continuing harassment or other impediments in this regard;

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[7] See S/1999/648, annex.

12. *Calls upon* the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to return or to facilitate the fair, unbiased and accurate restoration or reconstruction of Kosovar documentation and legal records taken or destroyed during the conflict;

13. *Stresses* the importance of and the responsibility of all parties to create a secure environment in Kosovo that will allow refugees and displaced persons to return and allow all those who wish to remain in Kosovo a genuine possibility to do so, irrespective of their ethnic origin;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to pursue his humanitarian efforts in Kosovo through the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, other appropriate humanitarian organizations and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and to continue to take the urgent practical steps to meet the critical needs of the people in Kosovo and to assist in the voluntary return of displaced persons to their homes in conditions of safety and dignity;

15. *Encourages* the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 to continue investigations at all levels concerning official individuals or private citizens with regard to serious violations of international humanitarian law committed in Kosovo, and reaffirms that the investigation of such crimes falls within the jurisdiction of the Office;

16. *Demands* that the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and the Kosovar Serb and Albanian leaderships and all others concerned cooperate fully with the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and honour all obligations towards it;

17. *Reiterates its call upon* the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to live up to their commitment to provide financial and material assistance to those residents of Kosovo whose homes have been damaged;

18. *Calls upon* the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to provide information on the fate and the whereabouts of the high number of missing persons from Kosovo, and encourages the International Committee of the Red Cross to pursue its clarification efforts in this regard, in cooperation with other organizations such as the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

19. *Encourages* the ongoing cooperation provided by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) regarding the visits to some two thousand prisoners, mainly of Kosovar Albanian origin, carried out by the International Committee of the Red Cross and held under the authority of the Ministry of Justice of Serbia;

20. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the international community, and calls for continuing support for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other agencies engaged in the effort to provide those in need in Kosovo with proper accommodation, in particular with a view to facilitating the preparation and provision of adequate winter accommodation;

21. *Urges* all parties involved in Kosovo to support the efforts of the United Nations Children's Fund to ensure that all children in Kosovo return to school as soon as possible and to contribute to the rebuilding and repair of schools destroyed or damaged during the conflict in Kosovo;

22. *Calls* for the most rapid and full deployment of United Nations police and for the creation of a multi-ethnic local police force throughout Kosovo, as a key step towards guaranteeing respect for law and order and for creating a safe environment for all inhabitants of Kosovo;

23. *Condemns* any effort, on behalf of any ethnic group, to create any sort of parallel institutions for Kosovar Serb and Albanian populations, be they police, school, administrative or other institutions, and calls upon the Mission and the Force to prevent any such institutions from being formed;

24. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to continue to monitor closely the situation of human rights in Kosovo, to pay special attention to Kosovo in his reporting and to report his findings to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-sixth session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.

83rd plenary meeting
17 December 1999

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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/54/605/Add.3)*]

54/184. Situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind all relevant resolutions on this subject, in particular Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/18 of 23 April 1999,[1] as well as all Security Council resolutions and statements,

Bearing in mind also General Assembly resolution 54/183 of 17 December 1999 on the situation of human rights in Kosovo,

Reaffirming the obligations of all Member States under the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[2] the obligations of States parties under the International Covenants on Human Rights[3] and all other human rights instruments and the obligation of all to respect international humanitarian law, including the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of victims of war[4]

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[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[2] Resolution 217 A (III).

[3] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[5] as well as the principles and commitments undertaken by participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,

Reaffirming also the territorial integrity of all States in the region, within their internationally recognized borders, taking fully into account all relevant Security Council resolutions,

Expressing its full support for the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the annexes thereto (collectively the "Peace Agreement"),[6] which, *inter alia*, committed the parties of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to respect human rights fully, and for the Basic Agreement on the Region of Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium (the "Basic Agreement"),[7]

Expressing its deep concern at the continuing evidence of violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms taking place to varying degrees in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and, in particular, the failure of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to follow the recommendations made in 1996 by the personal representative of the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,

Welcoming all contributions of the Office of the High Representative, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other parts of the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe, the European Community Monitoring Mission, Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the area in 1999,

1. *Reiterates its call* for the full and consistent implementation of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the annexes thereto (collectively the "Peace Agreement")[6] and the Basic Agreement on the Region of Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium (the "Basic Agreement")[7] by all parties to those agreements;

2. *Stresses* the crucial role of human rights in the successful implementation of the Peace Agreement, and underlines the obligations of the parties under the Peace Agreement to secure for all persons within their jurisdiction the highest level of international norms and standards of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

3. *Also stresses* the need to direct international human rights efforts in the region to the core issues of the lack of full respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all individuals without distinction, the rule of law and effective administration of justice at all levels of government, the freedom and independence of the media, freedom of expression, freedom of association, including with respect to political parties, freedom of religion and freedom of movement;

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[5] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[6] S/1995/999; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995*.

[7] S/1995/951; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995*.

4. *Further stresses* the need for enhanced international human rights efforts to foster and effect the prompt and voluntary return of displaced persons and refugees in safety and with dignity;

5. *Reiterates its call upon* all parties and States in the region to ensure that the promotion and protection of human rights and effective, functioning democratic institutions will be central elements in developing civilian structures, as reaffirmed at the meetings of the Steering Board of the Peace Implementation Council and the Peace Implementation Conference;

6. *Urges* all States and parties to the Peace Agreement that have not done so to meet their obligations to cooperate fully with the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, as required by Security Council resolution 827 (1993) of 25 May 1993 and all subsequent relevant resolutions, and, in particular, to comply with their obligations to arrest and transfer to the custody of the Tribunal those indicted persons present in their territories or in territories under their control;

7. *Continues to call upon* all parties to the Peace Agreement to take immediate steps to determine the identity, whereabouts and fate of missing persons in their territories, including through close cooperation with the United Nations as well as with humanitarian organizations and independent experts, and stresses the importance of coordination in this area;

8. *Notes* that varying degrees of progress have been made in the human rights situation in several areas, but that substantial efforts remain to be made;

I. BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

9. *Notes* the progress made in Bosnia and Herzegovina with regard to the increase in political pluralism and freedom of expression, through the participation of all groups and individuals, which represents another step towards democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina, but remains concerned that freedom of speech and the media are still curtailed by political influence, notably through the selective and intimidating application of slander laws;

10. *Expresses its continued serious concern* about continuing human rights violations within Bosnia and Herzegovina and delays in the full implementation of the human rights provisions of the Peace Agreement, notably the delay in bringing legislation into compliance with the human rights provisions of the national Constitution of the country, and the failure of local authorities and groups to comply with the obligations of the Peace Agreement;

11. *Condemns in the strongest terms* the complicity by local governments in the perpetration of violence against minority refugees and internally displaced persons returning to their homes and in the destruction of their homes, including acts of intimidation and all those acts designed to discourage the voluntary return of refugees and internally displaced persons, and calls for the removal from office of implicated local government officials as well as the immediate arrest and bringing to justice of those responsible for such acts;

12. *Calls upon* all the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to adjudicate claims for and implement decisions on property rights made by local authorities and/or by the Commission for Real Property Claims of Displaced Persons and Refugees without further delay;

13. *Reiterates its demand* that all parties in Bosnia and Herzegovina immediately create conditions conducive to the voluntary return, in safety and with dignity, of refugees and internally displaced persons to their homes, with equal emphasis on the rights of persons belonging to minorities, pass immediately and enforce legislation on property rights in conformity with recommendations made by the Office of the High Representative and end practices of discrimination on ethnic or political grounds;

14. *Notes with satisfaction* the decline in violence against returning refugees and displaced persons, while remaining concerned that all ethnic groups continue to report harassment;

15. *Welcomes* the adoption of a new criminal code and of codes of ethics by the judges and prosecutors of both entities and the increased strength of the prosecutor's office of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina as a result of laws imposed by the High Representative, but notes that the judicial processes still do not sufficiently protect the rights of the accused;

16. *Notes* that implementation of the decisions of the Human Rights Chamber has begun, while reminding both State- and entity-level governments to pay increased attention to decisions of the Chamber;

17. *Calls upon* the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina and, in particular, the authorities of the Republika Srpska to increase their cooperation with the Commission on Human Rights for Bosnia and Herzegovina, to cooperate fully with the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and to intensify their efforts in this regard;

18. *Notes* that police standards and protection have improved, while remaining concerned about continuing indications among the police of unprofessional conduct, political influence and instances of interference with the return of refugees and the use of excessive force;

19. *Urges* the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in particular those of the Republika Srpska, to ensure full and free access to their territories for all institutions and organizations concerned with the implementation of the present resolution, including non-governmental organizations, and to provide for the protection of those organizations, especially those providing humanitarian assistance;

20. *Stresses* the importance of the implementation of the programme proposed by the High Representative in coordination with the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe for a comprehensive judicial reform;

21. *Calls upon* the authorities of both entities to cooperate closely with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in matters relating to the return of refugees and to ensure that local authorities and groups permit and encourage the return of displaced persons to their homes of origin;

22. *Calls upon* the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina urgently to consider, with a view to its early adoption and full implementation, the draft permanent election law designed by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to strengthen ties between constituents and representatives, strengthen democratic accountability and encourage pluralistic, multi-ethnic political parties;

23. *Notes* the importance of the work of the Human Rights Ombudsman in bringing to light many cases of human rights violations and in resolving several of them, and urges the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to implement the recommendations of the Ombudsman;

24. *Condemns* recurrent instances of religious discrimination and violence and the denial to religious minorities of their rights to reclaim and rebuild their religious sites;

25. *Expresses its concern* that trafficking in women is a growing problem, and calls upon the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to act vigorously to combat this problem;

II. REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

26. *Notes with interest* the initiatives taken by the Republic of Croatia to improve the legislative and economic framework for the return of refugees, in particular steps to eliminate discriminatory provisions of Croatian laws;

27. *Notes with satisfaction* the cooperation between the Police Monitoring Group of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the local police forces in Eastern Slavonia, while also noting continued instances of ethnically based problems in Eastern Slavonia;

28. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts by the Republic of Croatia to train and to guarantee the professionalism and impartiality of the Croatian police and military forces, and notes, in particular, the commitment on the part of the Ministry of the Interior to maintain an ethnically diverse police force in the Danube region;

29. *Also welcomes* the actions of the Government of the Republic of Croatia related to the return of significant numbers of persons to their places of origin since 1995 and the steps being taken by the Government to eliminate discriminatory provisions of Croatian laws, while noting that the pace of minority returns from third countries has been disappointing, and expresses concern that protection of the rights of persons belonging to minorities has not met the level of Croatia's legal obligations;

30. *Notes* that the Government of the Republic of Croatia has continued its efforts to codify democratic norms, including the independence of its judiciary and freedom of association and assembly, while also noting that the application by the Government of those laws and principles has lagged behind its stated intentions;

31. *Expresses deep concern* about the fact that commitments by the Government to improve the freedom of the press have remained unfulfilled, and reaffirms the need for free and independent media and the need to provide to all political parties equal access to all forms of media during the forthcoming electoral campaign;

32. *Notes* the passage of a new telecommunications law as a positive step, but urges the Government of the Republic of Croatia to comply with international recommendations, in particular those of the mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in the areas of electoral and media reform, regrets that until now those recommendations have been only partially fulfilled, and stresses the importance of the full application of the citizenship law of 1991;

33. *Expresses deep concern* about the reported extensive campaign of wiretapping against the independent media and opposition political figures, and calls upon the Government of the Republic of Croatia to ensure that the media and opposition political figures and parties are not harassed or hindered in

their actions or intimidated by actions of the Government and are guaranteed the same protections as representatives of the media or political establishment who are favourable to the Government;

34. *Welcomes* the signing on 10 May 1999 by the Government of the Republic of Croatia of the programme of technical assistance of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, with a view to building national human rights capacity and human rights education, and looks forward to the implementation of the programme in December 1999;

35. *Notes* the efforts of the Republic of Croatia to codify and incorporate the impartial application of the law, but urges the swift and complete implementation of judicial decisions for all citizens, irrespective of ethnicity, religion or political affiliation, while noting with concern that due process, the rule of law, the treatment of ethnic minorities and press freedoms fall short of the standards of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, notably that lengthy judicial processes plague the Croatian judiciary and that cases of interest to the ruling party are processed more expeditiously than others;

36. *Also notes* the formal steps taken by the Republic of Croatia to guarantee the rights of persons belonging to minorities and the ratification of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities[8] and the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages,[9] but continues to remind the Government of its primary responsibility to restore the multi-ethnic character of Croatia, in fact as well as in law, including the pledge to guarantee the representation of national minorities, including Serbs, at various levels of local, regional and national government;

37. *Further notes* outstanding letters from the President of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 to the Security Council, and calls upon the Republic of Croatia to cooperate fully with the Tribunal and to comply, in particular, with its obligation to arrest and transfer to the custody of the Tribunal those indicted persons known to be present in its territory and, when prosecuting war crimes, to ensure that domestic prosecution complies with international standards and the obligations of the Republic of Croatia to the Tribunal;

III. FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA (SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO)

38. *Condemns* the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) for its gross violations of the human rights of the ethnic Albanians of Kosovo and its violent campaign to expel or deport ethnic Albanian Kosovars from their homes and communities in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro);

39. *Calls upon* the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and all authorities and representatives of ethnic groups in Kosovo to implement Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999 and consequently to cooperate fully with and support the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo in the fulfilment of its mandate;

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[8] Council of Europe, *European Treaty Series*, No. 157.

[9] Ibid., No. 148.

40. *Strongly condemns* the presence of indicted war criminals in the hierarchy of the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and of the Government of the Republic of Serbia or those who are fugitives in the territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), and calls for them to be removed from office and transferred to the custody of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia as one of the first steps towards reinstating the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) in the community of law-abiding States;

41. *Demands* that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) hand over to the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia all government officials of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and of the Government of the Republic of Serbia indicted as war criminals and repudiate the leadership of anyone so indicted as a first step towards establishing a democratic government and becoming a full and respected member of the international community, and reminds the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) of its obligations to cooperate fully with the Tribunal;

42. *Also demands* that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) immediately bring to justice any persons, in particular those among its personnel, who have authorized or engaged in breaches of international humanitarian law and violations of human rights, including summary executions, indiscriminate attacks on civilians, indiscriminate destruction of property, mass forced displacement of civilians, the taking of civilian hostages, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and, in this context, reminds the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) of its obligations to cooperate fully with the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

43. *Further demands* an immediate end to illegal and/or hidden detention by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), as well as by paramilitary groups in Kosovo, and requests the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to investigate any and all allegations of hidden detentions, including detentions of ethnic Serbs, Albanians and others;

44. *Demands* that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) institutionalize democratic norms by holding free and fair elections at all levels of government, respecting the rule of law and the administration of justice and fully respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms;

45. *Also demands* that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) promote and protect free and independent media and that the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) repeal any law that hinders the full and free exercise of the democratic rights of the citizens of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), cease any harassment and hindrance of journalists, wherever within the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) they may be practising their profession, and repeal repressive laws on universities and the media which suppress any and all internal dissent or expression of independent views, and concomitantly respect the right of free speech;

46. *Emphasizes* that the subversion of the fundamental democratic rights of the citizens of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) extends to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) as a whole, calls upon the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to respect the rights of all persons belonging to minority groups, especially in the Sandjak and Vojvodina, and of persons belonging to the Bulgarian minority, and supports the unconditional return of the

long-term missions of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, as called for by the Security Council in its resolutions;

47. *Concerned* by the continued grave infringements upon freedom of expression in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), in particular with regard to the exploitation of the crisis in Kosovo as a means to stifle and suppress views opposing the Government in power, a violation of the basic right of free speech;

48. *Denounces* the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) for its legal and physical intimidation of peaceful political opposition and of individuals who express views that differ from those of the Government, and demands that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) respect the fundamental rights of individuals to free assembly and free speech;

49. *Insists* that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) support the activities of the international community and the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo to rebuild and facilitate the multi-ethnic society in Kosovo that the policy of ethnic cleansing, intimidation and discrimination largely destroyed, in particular by using the influence of the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) among the local Serb representatives in Kosovo and by working in good faith with the local Albanian representatives to that end;

50. *Calls upon* the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to implement fully, with dispatch and in good faith, their obligations under the Peace Agreement, notably to cooperate fully with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other humanitarian organizations to alleviate the suffering of refugees and internally displaced persons and to assist in their safe and voluntary return to their homes;

51. *Calls upon* States to consider additional voluntary contributions to meet the pressing human rights and humanitarian needs in the area, and underlines the need for continued coordination among States, international organizations and non-governmental organizations of initiatives and programmes with the aim of avoiding duplication, overlap and working at cross-purposes;

52. *Decides* to continue its examination of this question at its fifty-fifth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

83rd plenary meeting
17 December 1999

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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/54/605/Add.3)*]

54/185. Question of human rights in Afghanistan

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] the International Covenants on Human Rights[2] and accepted humanitarian rules, as set out in the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[3] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[4]

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations they have freely undertaken under the various international instruments,

Recalling that Afghanistan is a party to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide,[5] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[2] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[2] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[4] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[5] Resolution 260 A (III).

Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[6] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[7] and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War[8] and that it has signed the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[9]

Recalling also all its relevant resolutions, as well as the resolutions and presidential statements of the Security Council, the decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the resolutions and decisions of the Commission on Human Rights,

Recalling further that the United Nations continues to play its central and impartial role in international efforts towards a peaceful resolution of the Afghan conflict, and encouraging all efforts at the national, regional and international levels aimed at finding a solution to the continuing conflict through a broad-based dialogue involving all concerned actors,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan[10] and of the conclusions and recommendations contained therein;

2. *Strongly condemns* the mass killings and systematic human rights violations against civilians and prisoners of war, including in the areas of Mazar-e Sharif and Bamian, and notes with alarm the resumption by the Taliban of the wider conflict during the past summer, especially in the Shamali Valley, resulting in the massive, forced displacement of the civilian population, in particular of women and children;

3. *Condemns* the widespread violations and abuses of human rights and humanitarian law, including the rights to life, liberty and security of person, freedom from torture and from other forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, freedom of opinion, expression, religion, association and movement, the forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict and, in particular, the grave human rights violations against women and girls;

4. *Reiterates its condemnation* of the killings of Iranian diplomats and the correspondent of the Islamic Republic News Agency by the Taliban, which constituted flagrant violations of established international law, as well as of the attacks on and killing of United Nations personnel in Taliban-held territories of Afghanistan, and calls upon the Taliban to fulfil their stated commitment to cooperate in urgent investigations of these heinous crimes with a view to bringing those responsible to justice;

5. *Notes with deep concern*:

(*a*) The persisting pattern of human rights violations in Afghanistan;

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[6] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[7] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[8] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[9] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[10] See A/54/422.

(*b*) The continuing and substantiated reports of human rights violations against women and girls, including all forms of discrimination against them, notably in areas under the control of the Taliban;

(*c*) The intensification of armed hostilities in Afghanistan and the complex nature of the conflict, including its ethnic, religious and political aspects, which have resulted in extensive human suffering and forced displacement, including on the grounds of ethnicity;

(*d*) The continued displacement of millions of Afghan refugees to the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan and other countries;

(*e*) The lack of major reconstruction in Afghanistan;

6. *Also notes with deep concern* the sharp deterioration of the humanitarian situation in several areas of Afghanistan, in particular in the Shamali and Panjshir valleys, and calls for the full implementation of the agreement on the security of United Nations personnel in Afghanistan;

7. *Urges* all States to respect the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan, to refrain from interfering in its internal affairs and to end immediately the supply of arms, ammunition, military equipment, training or any other military support, including the provision of foreign military personnel, to all parties to the conflict;

8. *Urges* all the Afghan parties:

(*a*) To respect fully all human rights and fundamental freedoms, regardless of gender, ethnicity or religion, in accordance with international human rights instruments;

(*b*) To cease hostilities immediately, to work and cooperate fully with the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan with a view to achieving a ceasefire and to implement the Tashkent Declaration on Fundamental Principles for a Peaceful Settlement of the Conflict in Afghanistan of 19 July 1999,[11] thus laying the foundation for a comprehensive political solution leading to the voluntary return of displaced persons to their homes in safety and with dignity and to the establishment of a broad-based, multi-ethnic, fully representative Government through the full exercise of the Afghan people of the right to self-determination;

(*c*) To reaffirm publicly their commitment to international human rights and principles and to recognize, protect and promote all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(*d*) To respect fully international humanitarian law, to protect civilians, to halt the use of weapons against the civilian population, to refrain from the wanton destruction of food crops and civilian property, in particular homes, to stop the laying of landmines, especially anti-personnel mines, to prohibit conscripting or enlisting children or using them to participate in hostilities in violation of international law and to ensure the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of children into society;

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[11] A/54/174–S/1999/812, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1999*, document S/1999/812.

(*e*) To provide efficient and effective remedies to the victims of grave violations and abuses of human rights and of international humanitarian law and to bring the perpetrators to trial;

(*f*) To treat all suspects and convicted or detained persons in accordance with relevant international instruments and to refrain from arbitrary detention, including detention of civilian foreign nationals, and urges their captors to release them as well as non-criminal civilian prisoners;

9. *Demands* that all the Afghan parties fulfil their obligations regarding the safety of all personnel of diplomatic missions, the United Nations and other international organizations, as well as their premises in Afghanistan, and to cooperate fully and without discrimination on grounds of gender, nationality or religion with the United Nations and associated bodies and with other humanitarian organizations, agencies and non-governmental organizations;

10. *Urges* all the Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, to bring to an end without delay all violations of human rights against women and girls and to take urgent measures to ensure:

(*a*) The repeal of all legislative and other measures that discriminate against women and girls and those that impede the realization of all their human rights;

(*b*) The effective participation of women in civil, cultural, economic, political and social life throughout the country;

(*c*) Respect for the right of women to work and their reintegration into employment;

(*d*) The right of women and girls to education without discrimination, the reopening of schools and the admission of women and girls to all levels of education;

(*e*) Respect for the right of women to security of person, and that those responsible for physical attacks on women are brought to justice;

(*f*) Respect for the freedom of movement of women and their effective and equal access to the facilities necessary to protect their right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the visit of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences, and looks forward to her conclusions and recommendations;

12. *Also notes with appreciation* the activities carried out by the International Committee of the Red Cross throughout the territory of Afghanistan;

13. *Invites* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to proceed without delay to investigate fully reports of mass killings of prisoners of war and civilians, rape and cruel treatment in Afghanistan, and calls upon the United Front and the Taliban to fulfil their stated commitment to cooperate with such investigations;

14. *Also invites* the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner to ensure that the ongoing process of deployment of the civilian affairs observers in Afghanistan is completed as soon as possible and that gender issues and the rights of children are fully taken into account in their mission;

15. *Appeals* to all States, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, specialized agencies and other international organizations to provide humanitarian assistance to all in need as soon as the situation on the ground permits and as part of an overall effort to achieve peace;

16. *Expresses its deep concern* at reports of attacks on and looting of cultural artifacts in Afghanistan, emphasizes that all parties share the responsibility to protect their common heritage, and requests all Member States to take appropriate measures to prevent the looting of cultural artifacts and to ensure their return to Afghanistan;

17. *Urges* all the Afghan parties to extend their cooperation to the Commission on Human Rights and its Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan and to all those special rapporteurs who are seeking invitations;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur;

19. *Decides* to keep the situation of human rights in Afghanistan under consideration at its fifty-fifth session, in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council.

83rd plenary meeting
17 December 1999

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A/RES/54/186
29 February 2000

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 116 (*c*)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/54/605/Add.3)*]

54/186. Situation of human rights in Myanmar

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms as stated in the Charter of the United Nations and elaborated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] the International Covenants on Human Rights[2] and other applicable human rights instruments,

Aware that, in accordance with its Charter, the United Nations promotes and encourages respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that the will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government, and therefore expressing its grave concern that the Government of Myanmar still has not implemented its commitment to take all necessary steps towards democracy in the light of the results of the elections held in 1990,

Recalling its resolution 53/162 of 9 December 1998,

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/58 of 3 March 1992,[3] in which the Commission, *inter alia,* decided to nominate a special rapporteur with a given mandate, and taking note of Commission resolution 1999/17 of 23 April 1999,[4] in which the Commission decided to extend for one year the mandate of its Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar,

Recalling further the observation made by the Special Rapporteur that the absence of respect for the rights pertaining to democratic governance is at the root of all major violations of human rights in Myanmar,

Gravely concerned at the continuing and intensified repression of civil and political rights in Myanmar, as reported by the Special Rapporteur,

Deeply regretting the failure of the Government of Myanmar to cooperate fully with the relevant United Nations mechanisms, in particular the Special Rapporteur, while noting the recent increased contacts between the Government of Myanmar and the international community,

Noting that the Government of Myanmar, as a State party to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[5] has submitted its initial report to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women for its consideration,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Myanmar for his interim report,[6] and calls upon the Government of Myanmar to implement fully the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur;

2. *Urges* the Government of Myanmar to cooperate fully and without further delay with the Special Rapporteur and to allow him, without preconditions, to conduct a field mission and to establish direct contacts with the Government and all other relevant sectors of society, thus enabling him fully to discharge his mandate, and, in this context, notes with interest that the Government has expressed its willingness to give serious consideration to a visit by the Special Rapporteur;

3. *Welcomes* the resumption of cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross, allowing the Committee to communicate with and visit prisoners in accordance with its standard working rules, and encourages continued cooperation in that regard;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his report,[7] and notes with deep concern his conclusion that he is unable to report concrete progress, with the exception of the visit by the International Committee of the Red Cross, on issues that the international community has raised time and again in successive resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights;

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[3] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 2* (E/1992/22), chap. II, sect. A.

[4] Ibid., *1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[5] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[6] A/54/440, annex.

[7] A/54/499.

5. *Deplores* the continuing violations of human rights in Myanmar, including extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, enforced disappearances, rape, torture, inhuman treatment, mass arrests, forced labour, including the use of children, forced relocation and denial of freedom of assembly, association, expression and movement, as reported by the Special Rapporteur;

6. *Expresses its grave concern* at the increased repression of any form of public political activity and the arbitrary detention and arrest of those exercising their rights to freedom of thought, expression, assembly and association, as well as the harassment of their families;

7. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar to release immediately and unconditionally detained political leaders and all political prisoners, to ensure their physical integrity and to permit them to participate in the process of national reconciliation;

8. *Expresses its grave concern* at the escalation in the persecution of the democratic opposition, notably over the past year, in particular members and supporters of the National League for Democracy, at the harsh long-term prison sentences imposed and the use by the Government of intimidatory measures against elected representatives and members of the National League for Democracy, which forced them to resign from their positions and to dissolve their party offices;

9. *Expresses its concern* that the composition and working procedures of the National Convention do not permit either members of Parliament-elect or representatives of the ethnic minorities to express their views freely, and urges the Government of Myanmar to seek new and constructive means to promote national reconciliation;

10. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar, taking into account the assurances it has given on various occasions, to take all necessary steps towards the restoration of democracy in accordance with the will of the people as expressed in the democratic elections held in 1990 and, to this end and without delay, to engage in a substantive political dialogue with political leaders, including Aung San Suu Kyi, and representatives of ethnic groups, and, in this context, notes the existence of the Committee representing the People's Parliament;

11. *Notes with grave concern* that the Government of Myanmar has failed to review its legislation, to cease to inflict the practice of forced labour on its people and to punish those exacting forced labour, which has forced the International Labour Conference to exclude further cooperation with the Government until such time as it has implemented the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry of the International Labour Organization regarding the implementation of the Forced Labour Convention, 1930, Convention No. 29, of the International Labour Organization;

12. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar to cease the widespread and systematic use of forced labour and to implement the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry, while noting the order by the Government of Myanmar issued in May 1999 directing that the power to requisition forced labour under the Towns Act and the Village Act not be exercised, as well as the invitation to visit addressed to the International Labour Organization in October 1999;

13. *Deplores* the continued violations of human rights, in particular those directed against persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, including summary executions, rape, torture, forced labour, forced portering, forced relocations, destruction of crops and fields and dispossession of land and property, which deprives those persons of all means of subsistence;

14. *Also deplores* the continuing violations of the human rights of women, especially women who are refugees, are internally displaced or belong to ethnic minorities or the political opposition, in particular forced labour, sexual violence and exploitation, including rape, as reported by the Special Rapporteur;

15. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar to ensure full respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including economic and social rights, to fulfil its obligation to end the impunity of perpetrators of human rights violations, including members of the military, and to investigate and prosecute alleged violations committed by government agents in all circumstances;

16. *Urges* the Government of Myanmar to end the enforced displacement of persons and other causes of refugee flows to neighbouring countries and to create conditions conducive to their voluntary return and full reintegration in conditions of safety and dignity;

17. *Notes with interest* the recent visit to Myanmar by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the purpose of holding discussions with the Government and with political leaders, including Aung San Suu Kyi and representatives of some ethnic minority groups, and calls upon the Government of Myanmar to enter into a constructive dialogue with the Secretary-General in order to make better use of his good offices;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his discussions on the situation of human rights and the restoration of democracy with the Government of Myanmar, to submit additional reports to the General Assembly during its fifty-fourth session on the progress of those discussions and to report to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session and to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-sixth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

19. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-fifth session.

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17 December 1999

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29 February 2000

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 116 (*c*)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/54/605/Add.3)*]

54/187. Situation of human rights in Haiti

The General Assembly,

Guided by the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] the International Covenants on Human Rights[2] and other international human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[3]

Recalling its resolution 53/159 of 9 December 1998, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/77 of 28 April 1999,[4]

Recognizing the interdependence and mutual reinforcement between democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and the commitment of the international community to supporting, strengthening and promoting this principle,

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[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[3] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[4] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the independent expert of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Haiti, Adama Dieng,[5] and encouraging active follow-up of the recommendations contained therein,

Recognizing the important contributions of the International Civilian Mission in Haiti, the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti and the National Commission for Truth and Justice to the task of restoring and strengthening democracy in Haiti and of establishing a climate of freedom and tolerance conducive to respect for human rights,

Commending the Organization of American States for its contribution to the Civilian Mission, and inviting that organization to pursue, as appropriate, its cooperation with the United Nations in Haiti,

Welcoming the establishment of the new Provisional Electoral Council and the decision taken to organize legislative and local elections on 19 March 2000 and in April 2000 as a step towards re-establishing a functional legislature,

Welcoming also the continued improvements in the situation of human rights in Haiti since the restoration of its democratic regime, and noting the declared commitment of the Government of Haiti to uphold human rights,

Expressing its concern at the security problems faced by Haitian society, some of which are due to the difficult social and economic conditions and which both account for and result from the limitations of the judicial and police systems, as indicated in the report of the independent expert,

Welcoming Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/11 of 27 July 1999, in which the Council, *inter alia*, emphasized the need to establish the necessary mechanisms to develop, on a priority basis, a long-term strategy and programme of support for Haiti,

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Secretary-General, his Special Representative for Haiti and the independent expert of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Haiti for their continuing efforts in favour of the consolidation of democratic institutions in Haiti and respect for human rights;

2. *Commends* the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti for its successful training and mentoring assistance to the Haitian National Police, as well as the efforts of the International Civilian Mission in Haiti in monitoring human rights and promoting democratic reform and assisting the Haitian authorities in the area of institution-building;

3. *Draws attention* to the need for the Haitian National Police to continue to receive technical assistance to enable it to perform its functions efficiently within a framework of respect for human rights;

4. *Commends* the United Nations Development Programme for its technical assistance to the Haitian National Police and the penitentiary system as well as in the organization of the forthcoming electoral process, also commends the international community for the provision of other assistance, including for judicial reform, and invites them to continue to provide appropriate assistance;

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[5] See A/54/366.

5. *Invites* the Government of Haiti to ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[2] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[6] and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;[7]

6. *Strongly supports* the efforts made to enable the people of Haiti to express their political will in the forthcoming legislative and local elections, invites all the political leaders of the country to involve themselves in a constructive dialogue, and in this connection invites the Government of Haiti to ensure the necessary political and security environment for the holding of free and fair elections in accordance with the schedule recently announced by the Provisional Electoral Council;

7. *Calls upon* the Government of Haiti to continue structural reforms in the police and the judicial system and the improvement of the prison sector, to investigate properly politically motivated crimes and prosecute perpetrators of such crimes in accordance with Haitian law, to take vigorous action to eliminate any continuing human rights violations, including illegal arrests and detentions, and to ensure due process within a reasonable time;

8. *Reaffirms* the importance, for combating impunity and for the realization of a genuine and effective process of transition and national reconciliation, of the investigations undertaken by the National Commission for Truth and Justice, and once again calls upon the Government of Haiti to institute legal proceedings against the perpetrators of human rights violations identified by the National Commission and to create effective facilities for providing support to the victims, in particular women, children and members of their families, and in this specific context reiterates the recommendations contained in the report of the independent expert of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Haiti;[5]

9. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Government of Haiti, in collaboration with the international community and women's groups, to put in place measures to address the human rights of women and, *inter alia*, violence against women, including the development of training programmes for judicial and legal personnel and the incorporation of the precept of the human rights of women at all levels of the education system;

10. *Encourages* the Government of Haiti to promote further the rights of children, in particular their right to education;

11. *Invites* the Secretary-General and the Government of Haiti to contribute to the strengthening of the Office for the Protection of Citizens through the establishment of a programme of technical cooperation, in close collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and invites the international community to assist in this effort;

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[6] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[7] See resolutions 2200 A (XXI), annex, and 44/128, annex.

12. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Haiti at its fifty-fifth session.

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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/54/605/Add.3)*]

54/188. Situation of human rights in Rwanda

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the International Bill of Human Rights,[1] the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide[2] and other applicable human rights and humanitarian law standards,

Recalling its resolution 53/156 of 9 December 1998 and previous relevant resolutions, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/20 of 23 April 1999,[3]

Reaffirming that the promotion and protection of human rights are necessary for sustaining the process of national reconstruction and reconciliation in Rwanda,

Welcoming the commitment of the Government of Rwanda to promote and protect respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to eliminate impunity, the progress made towards the development of

[1] See resolutions 217 A (III), 2200 A (XXI), annex, and 44/128, annex.

[2] Resolution 260 A (III).

[3] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

a State governed on the basis of the rule of law and the efforts undertaken to consolidate peace and stability and promote unity and reconciliation,

Recognizing that the promotion and protection of human rights for all are essential for achieving stability and security in the region,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Special Representative of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Rwanda;[4]

2. *Reiterates its strong condemnation* of the crime of genocide and the crimes against humanity committed in Rwanda in 1994;

3. *Reaffirms* that all persons who committed or authorized acts of genocide or other grave violations of human rights and international law are individually responsible and accountable for those violations;

4. *Expresses concern* that most of the perpetrators of the genocide and other gross violations of human rights continue to evade justice;

5. *Also expresses concern* that, despite the imposition by the Security Council of an arms embargo which has remained in force since the genocide of 1994, the *Interahamwe* militias and the former members of the Rwandan armed forces continue to receive military, financial and logistical support, and in this regard calls upon the international community to take urgent measures to enable the disarmament of those groups in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Ceasefire Agreement, signed at Lusaka on 10 July 1999;[5]

6. *Reiterates its request* that all States cooperate fully, without delay, with the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 in ensuring that all those responsible for the crime of genocide, crimes against humanity and other grave violations of human rights are brought to justice in accordance with international principles of due process;

7. *Encourages* the International Tribunal for Rwanda to adopt further measures to enhance its efficiency and effectiveness;

8. *Notes* improvements in the situation of human rights in Rwanda since the fifty-third session of the General Assembly, expresses concern at those violations of human rights that are reported, and urges the Government of Rwanda to continue to investigate and prosecute such violations;

9. *Welcomes* the continuation of domestic trials of those suspected of genocide and crimes against humanity and the improvements that have been made in the trial process, and encourages the Government

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[4] See A/54/359.

[5] S/1999/815, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1999.*

of Rwanda, with the support of the international community, to strengthen the capacity of the independent judicial system in accordance with international human rights standards;

10. *Encourages* the International Tribunal for Rwanda and the Government of Rwanda to continue to prosecute crimes of sexual violence committed against women during the genocide of 1994;

11. *Welcomes* the deliberations currently being conducted in Rwanda to determine new mechanisms to handle the large caseload of detainees awaiting trial on genocide and related charges in a more expeditious manner, notes in this regard the proposal of the Government of Rwanda to establish a complementary system of participatory justice, urges the Government of Rwanda to ensure that any such system is in conformity with the law and international human rights standards, and encourages the international community to assist in this area;

12. *Reiterates its appeal* to the international community to provide financial and technical assistance to the Government of Rwanda within a mutually agreed framework of cooperation to help to strengthen the protection of genocide survivors and witnesses and the administration of justice, including adequate access to legal representation to prosecute those responsible for genocide and other violations of human rights and to promote the rule of law in Rwanda, and notes with appreciation the assistance already provided by some members of the donor community;

13. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts of the Government of Rwanda to build a State based on the rule of law and the guarantee of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[6] and other relevant international human rights instruments;

14. *Notes* that in July 1999 the transitional Government mandate was extended for a further four years, commends the Government of Rwanda for holding elections at the cell and sector levels in a peaceful and successful manner, and supports the Government in the continuation of its democratization process;

15. *Commends* the Government of Rwanda for its continued efforts to improve the situation of children, and encourages it to continue with these efforts, guided by a concern for the best interests of children, as specified in the Convention on the Rights of the Child;[7]

16. *Welcomes* the establishment by legislation of the National Human Rights Commission, encourages the Government of Rwanda and the international community to provide their full support to the Commission to enable it to carry out its mandate to monitor human rights in the country effectively and independently, in accordance with internationally recognized norms, notes the convening of a Commission round-table meeting in October 1999, and urges the Government of Rwanda to pursue its recommendations;

17. *Encourages* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Government of Rwanda, other Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to provide, within a mutually agreed framework of cooperation, support for the reconstruction of a human rights infrastructure, including a strong civil society;

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[6] Resolution 217 A (III).

[7] Resolution 44/25, annex.

18. *Notes with appreciation* the continuing assistance provided to the National Human Rights Commission by the High Commissioner;

19. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Government of Rwanda to continue to promote national unity and reconciliation, and also welcomes the establishment by legislation of the National Unity and Reconciliation Commission as a basis for the promotion of tolerance and non-discrimination;

20. *Encourages* the National Unity and Reconciliation Commission and the National Human Rights Commission to work together closely to ensure the complementarity of their efforts;

21. *Reiterates its concern* at the conditions in many communal detention centres and some prisons in Rwanda, calls upon the Government of Rwanda to continue its efforts to ensure that persons in detention are treated in a manner that respects their human rights, emphasizes the need for greater attention and resources to be directed to this problem, and again urges the international community to assist the Government of Rwanda in this area;

22. *Encourages* the continuing efforts of the Government of Rwanda to reduce the prison population by releasing minors, elderly prisoners, prisoners suffering from terminal illnesses and suspects with incomplete files who were detained for their alleged involvement in genocide and other abuses of human rights, and reaffirms the urgent need to complete a dossier for every detainee with a view to identifying those who should be formally charged and those who should be released immediately, early or conditionally;

23. *Encourages* the Government of Rwanda, in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to continue to provide protection and assistance to returnees to Rwanda;

24. *Notes* the initiative by the Government of Rwanda to regroup scattered rural populations in the country under a programme of villagization in order to facilitate community development infrastructure, and urges the Government of Rwanda to ensure that the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all are respected in the implementation of this programme;

25. *Calls* for close regular consultation between the Special Representative and the Government of Rwanda, the National Human Rights Commission and all relevant national institutions regarding the functioning of the Commission;

26. *Decides* to keep the situation of human rights in Rwanda under consideration at its fifty-fifth session, in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council.

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17 December 1999

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Agenda items 20 (*f*) and 50

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/54/L.58)*]

54/189. Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan and the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

A

THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/88 B of 19 December 1995, 51/195 B of 17 December 1996, 52/211 B of 19 December 1997 and 53/203 A of 18 December 1998,

Recalling also Security Council resolutions 1193 (1998) of 28 August 1998, 1214 (1998) of 8 December 1998 and 1267 (1999) of 15 October 1999 and all statements of the President of the Security Council on the situation in Afghanistan,

Noting all recent declarations by participants of regional international meetings and by international organizations on the situation in Afghanistan,

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan, and respecting its multicultural, multi-ethnic and historical heritage,

Convinced that there is no military solution to the Afghan conflict and that only a political settlement aimed at the establishment of a broad-based, multi-ethnic and fully representative government acceptable to the Afghan people can lead to peace and reconciliation,

Stressing the importance of non-intervention and non-interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, and deeply concerned at all forms of continued external support, which is causing the prolongation and intensification of the conflict,

Expressing its grave concern at the failure of all Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, to put an end to the conflict, which seriously threatens stability and peace in the region, and welcoming the willingness of the United Front to talk to the Taliban in order to find a solution to the country's problems,

Deeply concerned by the increasingly ethnic nature of the conflict, by reports of persecution on the grounds of ethnic origin and religious persuasion and by the threat this poses to the unity of the Afghan State,

Strongly condemning the sharp escalation of the conflict, in particular after the launching of a new offensive by the Taliban in July 1999, only one week after the meeting of the "six plus two" group in Tashkent, despite the repeated demands by the Security Council and continuing attempts by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan to avert the Taliban offensive,

Noting with concern the resulting exacerbation of the enormous suffering of the Afghan people, including the massive loss of human life, summary executions, deliberate abuse and arbitrary detention of civilians, refugee flows, use of child soldiers, harassment, forcible displacement of innocent civilians and extensive destruction,

Expressing its grave concern at persistent violations of human rights and at breaches of international humanitarian law in Afghanistan, as exemplified by reports of mass killings and atrocities committed by combatants against civilians and prisoners of war, including the finding in the report of the United Nations investigation team for Afghanistan, submitted by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,[1] that serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law took place in Afghanistan in 1997 and 1998,

Noting with alarm the massive displacement by the Taliban of the civilian population and, in particular, of women and children, in the Shomali Plains, as well as the indiscriminate destruction of their homes and agricultural land, thereby eliminating their source of income,

Expressing its grave concern at the continuing and substantiated reports of systematic human rights violations against women and girls, including all forms of discrimination against them, notably in areas under the control of the Taliban,

Strongly condemning the capture by Taliban militia of the Consulate-General of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the murder of Iranian diplomats and a journalist in Mazar-e Sharif, and stressing that these unacceptable acts, which constitute flagrant violations of established international law, must not go unpunished,

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[1] A/54/626, annex, sect. X.

Deeply disturbed by the continuing use of Afghan territory, especially areas controlled by the Taliban, for the recruitment, sheltering and training of terrorists, including international terrorists, and the planning of terrorist acts within and outside Afghanistan,

Deeply disturbed also by the continuing use of Afghan territory, especially areas controlled by the Taliban, for the increasing cultivation and trafficking of drugs, as well as by the significant rise in the illicit production of opium, which contribute to the war-making capabilities of the Afghans and have dangerous repercussions reaching Afghanistan's neighbours and far beyond,

Reiterating that the United Nations, as a universally recognized and impartial intermediary, must continue to play the central role in international efforts towards a peaceful resolution of the Afghan conflict,

Expressing its appreciation for the efforts made in this regard by the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan and by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan, and noting with concern that, following years of continuing negotiation, insufficient cooperation with the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General by the parties to the conflict has led to the freezing of his activities,

Noting and welcoming the meeting of the "six plus two" group under the auspices of the United Nations, with the participation of representatives of the warring Afghan parties, held in Tashkent on 19 and 20 July 1999, and the Tashkent Declaration on Fundamental Principles for a Peaceful Settlement of the Conflict in Afghanistan[2] adopted on 19 July 1999, as well as the working meeting of the "six plus two" group at the level of foreign ministers, held in New York in September 1999,

Regretting recent reports by the Secretary-General indicating that the "six plus two" group has not yet had the desired impact on the warring parties in Afghanistan,

Welcoming the contacts between the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan and various non-warring Afghan parties and personalities, and supporting calls by these independent Afghans for an end to the fighting and any proposals that might advance the cause of peace, including the meeting, held in Rome from 22 to 25 November 1999, of a group of Afghan personalities aimed at the convening of a genuine *loya jirgah* to promote a political settlement,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[3] and endorses the observations and recommendations set out therein;

2. *Stresses* that the main responsibility for finding a political solution to the conflict lies with the Afghan parties, and urges all of them to respond to the repeated calls for peace by the United Nations;

3. *Calls upon* all Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, to cease immediately all armed hostilities, to renounce the use of force and to engage, without delay or preconditions, in a political dialogue under

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[2] A/54/174–S/1999/812, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1999*, document S/1999/812.

[3] A/54/536–S/1999/1145; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1999*, document S/1999/1145.

United Nations auspices aimed at achieving a lasting political settlement of the conflict by creating a broad-based, multi-ethnic and fully representative government, which would protect the rights of all Afghans and observe the international obligations of Afghanistan;

4. *Welcomes* the intra-Afghan meetings in Ashgabat at the beginning of 1999 and in Tashkent in July 1999, and urges all Afghan parties to take further confidence-building measures with a view to resuming direct intra-Afghan talks;

5. *Urges* the Taliban and other Afghan parties to refrain from all acts of violence against civilians, including women and children;

6. *Strongly condemns* the sharp escalation of the conflict, in particular after the launching of a new offensive by the Taliban in July 1999;

7. *Notes with distress* reports indicating the involvement in the fighting in Afghanistan, mainly on the side of the Taliban forces, of two thousand to five thousand non-Afghan nationals, mostly from religious schools, some of whom are still children;

8. *Strongly condemns* the fact that foreign military support to the Afghan parties continued unabated through 1999, and calls upon all States to refrain strictly from any outside interference and to end immediately the supply of arms, ammunition, military equipment, training or any other military support to all parties to the conflict in Afghanistan;

9. *Calls upon* all States to take resolute measures to prohibit their military personnel from planning and participating in combat operations in Afghanistan and immediately to withdraw their personnel and to assure that the supply of ammunition and other war-making materials is halted;

10. *Reiterates its position* that the United Nations must continue to play its central and impartial role in international efforts towards a peaceful resolution of the Afghan conflict;

11. *Reaffirms its full support* for the efforts of the United Nations in facilitating the political process towards the goal of national reconciliation and a lasting political settlement with the participation of all parties to the conflict and all segments of Afghan society, and fully supports, in particular, the comprehensive efforts of the Secretary-General, of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and those of the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan;

12. *Supports* the intention of the Secretary-General to strengthen the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan with a view to assuring its primary role in conducting United Nations peacemaking activities in Afghanistan, in particular by appointing a new head of Mission, by progressively moving its head office to Kabul and by increasing its presence in neighbouring countries;

13. *Also supports* the intention of the Secretary-General to redouble the efforts of the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan to achieve a durable and equitable political settlement by facilitating an immediate and durable ceasefire and the resumption of a dialogue between the Afghan parties, by instituting a negotiating process leading to the formation of a broad-based, multi-ethnic and fully representative government of national unity and by continuing to work closely with all countries that are willing to help find a peaceful solution to the Afghan conflict, in particular with the members of the "six plus two" group,

while continuing to monitor closely and encouraging the various peace initiatives of non-warring Afghan parties and personalities;

14. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Civil Affairs Unit within the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan, as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 53/203 A, and the efforts of the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to ensure that the ongoing process of deployment of a first group of civil affairs officers, including a coordinator for the Civil Affairs Unit, is completed as soon as possible;

15. *Also welcomes* the constitution of groups of interested States to coordinate their efforts as well as the activities of international organizations, in particular the Organization of the Islamic Conference, and encourages those organizations and States, in particular the "six plus two" group, to use their influence in a constructive manner in support of and in close coordination with the United Nations to promote peace in Afghanistan;

16. *Supports* the intention of the Secretary-General to continue to work with the "six plus two" group, to seek ways of improving the creativity and effectiveness of the group so as to ensure its more constructive and concrete involvement in a peaceful resolution of the conflict in Afghanistan and to consult other States on supplementary measures that could be taken in the search for peace;

17. *Calls upon* all Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, and countries concerned to increase their level of cooperation within the framework of the peacemaking efforts of the United Nations with a view to enabling the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan to renew his active involvement in these efforts as soon as possible;

18. *Calls upon* all signatories to the Tashkent Declaration on Fundamental Principles for a Peaceful Settlement of the Conflict in Afghanistan[2] and the Afghan parties to implement the principles contained in the Declaration in support of the efforts of the United Nations towards a peaceful resolution of the Afghan conflict, in particular the agreement of members of the "six plus two" group not to provide military support to any Afghan party and to prevent the use of their territories for such purposes, and recalls their appeal to the international community to take identical measures to prevent the delivery of weapons to Afghanistan;

19. *Reiterates its strong condemnation* of the armed attacks against United Nations personnel in the summer of 1998 and the recent attacks against United Nations personnel and property following the imposition of sanctions against the Taliban by the Security Council;

20. *Expresses deep concern* at the lack of tangible progress in the Taliban's investigations of the death, serious injury or disappearance of international or national staff members and other persons employed by the United Nations, in particular the killing of the two Afghan staff members of the World Food Programme and of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Jalalabad and of the Military Adviser to the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan in Kabul, and once again urges the Taliban to proceed with the immediate and thorough investigation of these cases and to inform the United Nations about the progress of their investigation without further delay;

21. *Reiterates its strong condemnation* of the killing of the diplomatic and consular staff of the Consulate-General of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Mazar-e Sharif and the correspondent of the Islamic Republic News Agency, expresses deep concern at the lack of progress in the Taliban's investigation of the

murders, and once again urges the Taliban to carry out, without further delay, a credible investigation with a view to prosecuting the guilty parties and to inform the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United Nations about the results thereof;

22. *Urges* all Afghan parties to recognize, protect and promote all human rights and freedoms, including the right to life, liberty and security of persons, regardless of gender, ethnicity or religion;

23. *Calls upon* all Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, to end discriminatory policies against women and girls, including policies regarding their rights to education, work and equal health care, and to recognize, protect and promote the equal rights and dignity of men and women;

24. *Condemns* the continuing widespread violations of international humanitarian law in Afghanistan, and urgently calls upon all Afghan parties to respect strictly all its provisions that provide essential protection for the civilian population in armed conflicts;

25. *Strongly demands* that all Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, refrain from providing sanctuary or training for international terrorists and their organizations, cease the recruitment of terrorists, close down terrorist training camps inside Afghanistan, take effective measures to ensure that the territory under its control is not used for terrorist organizations and camps and take the necessary steps to cooperate with efforts to bring indicted terrorists to justice without delay;

26. *Condemns* the acts of terrorists based in Afghanistan, including those in support of extremist groups operating against the interests of Member States and against their citizens, deplores the fact that the Taliban continues to provide safe haven to Usama bin Laden and to allow him and others associated with him to use Afghanistan as a base from which to sponsor international terrorist operations, recalls that the Security Council in its resolution 1267 (1999) has demanded that the Taliban turn over Usama bin Laden without further delay, and urges the Taliban to comply;

27. *Reiterates its call* to all Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, to halt all illegal drug activities and to support international efforts to ban illicit drug production and trafficking, and calls upon all Member States and all parties concerned to undertake concerted measures to stop the trafficking of illegal drugs from Afghanistan;

28. *Takes note* of the severe impact of the illicit drug production and trafficking on Afghanistan's immediate neighbours, and calls for further international cooperation in support of the efforts of the neighbouring States to stop the trafficking of illegal drugs from Afghanistan;

29. *Requests* the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to continue its crop monitoring and other work inside Afghanistan, including its alternative development pilot projects, and to further develop international measures against drug trafficking;

30. *Reiterates* that the cultural and historic relics and monuments of Afghanistan belong to the common heritage of mankind, calls upon all Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, to protect the cultural and historic relics and monuments of Afghanistan from acts of vandalism, damage and theft, and requests all Member States to take appropriate measures to prevent the looting of cultural artifacts and to ensure their return to Afghanistan;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly every three months during its fifty-fourth session on the progress of the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan and to report to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

32. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security".

84th plenary meeting
17 December 1999

B

EMERGENCY INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR PEACE, NORMALCY AND RECONSTRUCTION OF WAR-STRICKEN AFGHANISTAN

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/88 A of 19 December 1995, 51/195 A of 17 December 1996, 52/211 A of 19 December 1997 and 53/203 B of 18 December 1998,

Expressing its grave concern about the continuation of the military confrontation in Afghanistan, threatening regional peace and security and causing massive loss of life and extensive human suffering, further destruction of property, serious damage to the economic and social infrastructure, refugee flows and other forcible displacements of large numbers of people,

Noting with deep concern that the people of Afghanistan continue to suffer from a serious loss of their human rights, which can be largely attributed to the effects of decades of warfare that continues to create a worsening humanitarian crisis,

Remaining deeply concerned about the problem of millions of anti-personnel landmines and unexploded ordnance as well as the continued laying of new anti-personnel landmines in Afghanistan, which continue to prevent many Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons from returning to their villages and working in their fields,

Deeply disturbed by the continuing security threat to United Nations personnel and other humanitarian personnel, including locally engaged staff, and by various impediments to their access to affected populations,

Expressing its grave concern at the serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, in particular by the Taliban, in Afghanistan and at the inadequacy of measures taken by the warring factions to reverse the situation,

Deeply concerned by the continuing and substantiated reports of violations of human rights, in particular of women and girls, including all forms of discrimination against them, notably in areas under the control of the Taliban,

Welcoming the ongoing work of gender and human rights advisers appointed by the United Nations, who form an integral part of the office of the United Nations resident and humanitarian coordinator in Afghanistan,

Welcoming the visit of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences to Afghanistan in September 1999, and looking forward to her conclusions and recommendations,

Expressing its grave concern for the well-being of internally displaced persons, particularly in Kabul and in the Panjshir, Bamian and Kunduz regions, and the civilian population of Afghanistan living without shelter, who face a long winter possibly deprived of basic foods as a result of the recent fighting, as well as the denial by the warring factions of adequate conditions for the delivery of aid by humanitarian organizations,

Distressed by the loss of life caused by earthquakes and epidemics, and expressing its appreciation to all States, international agencies and non-governmental organizations that have provided emergency relief,

Affirming the urgent need to continue international humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan for the restoration of basic services, as well as the need for the conflicting parties to guarantee the safety and security of the personnel of all international organizations,

Welcoming the principle-centred approach towards humanitarian assistance and rehabilitation in Afghanistan as outlined in the Strategic Framework for Afghanistan and in the document entitled "Next Steps for the United Nations in Afghanistan", and the common programming mechanisms introduced by the United Nations, and also welcoming the initiative to establish an independent strategic monitoring unit,

Expressing its gratitude to all Governments that have rendered assistance to Afghan refugees, and, at the same time, calling on all parties to continue to honour their obligations for the protection of refugees and internally displaced persons and to allow international access for their protection and care,

Recognizing the need for continuing international assistance for the maintenance abroad and the voluntary repatriation and resettlement of refugees and internally displaced persons, and welcoming the voluntary return of refugees to rural districts in Afghanistan that are relatively stable and secure,

Expressing its appreciation to the United Nations system, to all States and international and non-governmental organizations that have responded positively and continue to respond, where conditions permit, to the humanitarian needs of Afghanistan, as well as to the Secretary-General for his efforts in mobilizing and coordinating the delivery of appropriate humanitarian assistance,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[4] and endorses the observations contained therein;

2. *Stresses* that the responsibility for the humanitarian crisis lies with all warring parties, in particular with the Taliban;

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[4] A/54/297.

3. *Strongly condemns* the recent fighting in the Shomali Plains and the forced displacement of civilian populations, the torching of residential houses, the burning of crops, the cutting of fruit trees and the deliberate destruction of infrastructure;

4. *Calls upon* all relevant organizations of the United Nations system to continue to coordinate closely their humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan on the basis of the Strategic Framework for Afghanistan, in particular to assure a consistent approach on matters of principle, human rights and security, and appeals to donor countries as well as other humanitarian organizations to cooperate closely with the United Nations, taking into account the inter-agency consolidated appeal for emergency humanitarian and rehabilitation assistance to Afghanistan for 2000;

5. *Calls upon* the leaders of all Afghan parties to place the highest priority on national reconciliation, acknowledging the desire of the Afghan people for rehabilitation, reconstruction and economic and social development;

6. *Urges* all Afghan parties to respect international humanitarian law and to ensure the safety, security and free movement of all United Nations and humanitarian personnel and the protection of the property of the United Nations and of humanitarian organizations, including non-governmental organizations, so as to facilitate their work;

7. *Demands* that all Afghan parties cooperate fully with the United Nations and associated bodies as well as with other agencies and humanitarian organizations in their efforts to respond to the humanitarian needs of the people of Afghanistan, and urges them to secure the uninterrupted supply of humanitarian aid to all in need of it;

8. *Condemns* all blockades or other interference in the delivery of humanitarian relief supplies to the Afghan people as a violation of international humanitarian law, and notes the recent lifting of the blockade in central Afghanistan by the Taliban;

9. *Strongly condemns* the recent acts of violence in Kabul, Farah, Kandahar, Mazar-e Sharif, Kunduz and Jalalabad directed against United Nations offices and personnel;

10. *Urges* all Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, to ensure safe and unimpeded access for and to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance, in particular the supply of food, medicine, shelter and health care, especially in the Panjshir Valley;

11. *Takes note* of the Supplementary Protocol to the Memorandum of Understanding of 13 May 1998, signed by the United Nations and the Taliban, on the security of United Nations personnel in Afghanistan, and urges the Taliban to take the necessary steps for its full implementation;

12. *Denounces* the continuing discrimination against girls and women as well as ethnic and religious groups, including minorities, and other violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in Afghanistan, notably in areas under the control of the Taliban, notes with deep concern their adverse effects on international relief and reconstruction programmes in Afghanistan, and calls upon all parties within Afghanistan to respect fully the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all, regardless of gender,

ethnicity or religion, in accordance with international human rights instruments, *inter alia*, the International Covenants on Human Rights;[5]

13. *Strongly urges* all of the Afghan parties to end discriminatory policies and to recognize, protect and promote the equal rights and dignity of women and men, including their rights to full and equal participation in the life of the country, freedom of movement, access to education and health facilities, employment outside the home, personal security and freedom from intimidation and harassment, in particular with respect to the implications of discriminatory policies for the distribution of aid, notwithstanding some progress made with respect to access to education and health care for girls and women;

14. *Urges* all Afghan parties to prohibit conscripting or enlisting children or using them to participate in hostilities in violation of international law;

15. *Appeals* to all States and to the international community to ensure that all humanitarian assistance to the people of Afghanistan integrates a gender perspective, that it actively attempts to promote the participation of both women and men and that women benefit equally with men from such assistance;

16. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments that continue to host Afghan refugees, appeals to the Governments concerned to reaffirm their commitment to international refugee law on the rights of asylum and protection, and calls upon the international community to do so and to consider providing further assistance to Afghan refugees;

17. *Expresses concern* over the continued laying of anti-personnel landmines, and urges all Afghan parties to put a complete halt to the use of landmines, which continues to take a heavy toll on civilians and seriously impedes the delivery of humanitarian assistance;

18. *Urgently appeals* to all States, the United Nations system and international and non-governmental organizations to continue to provide, when conditions on the ground permit, all possible financial, technical and material assistance for the Afghan population and the voluntary, safe and secure return of refugees and internally and forcibly displaced persons;

19. *Calls upon* the international community to respond to the inter-agency consolidated appeal for emergency humanitarian and rehabilitation assistance for Afghanistan, launched by the Secretary-General on 23 November 1999 for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2000, bearing in mind the availability also of the Afghanistan Emergency Trust Fund;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the actions taken pursuant to the present resolution;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session, under the cluster of items on coordination of humanitarian assistance, the sub-item entitled "Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan".

84th plenary meeting
17 December 1999

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[5] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/190
17 February 2000

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 24

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/54/L.47/Rev.1)*]

54/190. Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 3026 A (XXVII) of 18 December 1972, 3148 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973, 3187 (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973, 3391 (XXX) of 19 November 1975, 31/40 of 30 November 1976, 32/18 of 11 November 1977, 33/50 of 14 December 1978, 34/64 of 29 November 1979, 35/127 and 35/128 of 11 December 1980, 36/64 of 27 November 1981, 38/34 of 25 November 1983, 40/19 of 21 November 1985, 42/7 of 22 October 1987, 44/18 of 6 November 1989, 46/10 of 22 October 1991, 48/15 of 2 November 1993, 50/56 of 11 December 1995 and 52/24 of 25 November 1997,

Recalling the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict,[1] adopted at The Hague on 14 May 1954,

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 249, No. 3511.

Recalling also the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property,[2] adopted on 14 November 1970 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

Recalling further the Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects,[3] adopted at Rome on 24 June 1995 by the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law,

Recalling the Medellin Declaration for Cultural Diversity and Tolerance and the Plan of Action on Cultural Cooperation, adopted at the first Meeting of the Ministers of Culture of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Medellin, Colombia, on 4 and 5 September 1997,

Taking note with interest of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[4]

Aware of the importance attached by the countries of origin to the return of cultural property which is of fundamental spiritual and cultural value to them, so that they may constitute collections representative of their cultural heritage,

Expressing concern about the loss, destruction, damage, removal, theft, pillage or misappropriation of and any acts of vandalism directed against cultural property in areas of armed conflict and territories that are occupied,

Also expressing concern about the illicit traffic in cultural property and its damages on the cultural heritage of nations,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation on the work they have accomplished, in particular through the promotion of bilateral negotiations, for the return or restitution of cultural property, the preparation of inventories of movable cultural property, the reduction of illicit traffic in cultural property and the dissemination of information to the public;

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the provisions of the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict,[1] and invites Member States which have not already done so to become parties to the Convention and facilitate its implementation;

3. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Second Protocol to the Convention, adopted at The Hague on 26 March 1999, and invites all States Parties to the Convention to consider becoming parties to the Second Protocol to the Convention;

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[2] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Sixteenth Session, Paris, 12 October-14 November 1970*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*, p. 135.

[3] See www.unidroit.org.

[4] A/54/436.

4. *Reaffirms* the importance of the provisions of the Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects,[3] and invites those Member States which have not already done so to consider becoming parties to the Convention;

5. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental organizations to work in coordination with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, within their mandates and in cooperation with Member States, in order to continue to address the issue of return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin, and to provide appropriate support accordingly;

6. *Invites* Member States to continue drawing up, in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, systematic inventories of their cultural property;

7. *Commends* the efforts of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to encourage the linking of existing databases and identification systems, taking into account the one developed by the International Criminal Police Organization, to allow for electronic transmission of information in order to reduce illicit trafficking in cultural property, and encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to make further efforts in this regard in cooperation with Member States, where appropriate;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to cooperate with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in its efforts to develop all possibilities, including any further initiatives, for bringing about the attainment of the objectives of the present resolution;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin".

84th plenary meeting
17 December 1999

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/191
3 February 2000

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 35

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/54/L.71)*]

54/191. Assistance in mine action

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/7 of 19 October 1993, 49/215 of 23 December 1994, 50/82 of 14 December 1995, 51/149 of 13 December 1996 and 52/173 of 18 December 1997 on assistance in mine clearance and its resolution 53/26 of 17 November 1998 on assistance in mine action, all adopted without a vote,

Considering mine action to be an important component of United Nations humanitarian and development activities,

Reaffirming its deep concern at the tremendous humanitarian problem caused by the presence of mines and other unexploded devices that have serious and lasting social and economic consequences for the populations of mine-infested countries and constitute an obstacle to the return of refugees and other displaced persons, to humanitarian aid operations and to reconstruction and economic development, as well as to the restoration of normal social conditions,

Bearing in mind the serious threat that mines and other unexploded devices pose to the safety, health and lives of personnel participating in humanitarian, peacekeeping and rehabilitation programmes and operations,

Reiterating its dismay at the high number of victims of mines, especially among civilian populations, particularly children, and recalling in this context Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1995/79 of

8 March 1995,[1] 1996/85 of 24 April 1996,[2] 1997/78 of 18 April 1997,[3] 1998/76 of 22 April 1998[4] and 1999/80 of 28 April 1999[5] on the rights of the child and resolutions 1996/27 of 19 April 1996[2] and 1998/31 of 17 April 1998[4] and decision 1997/107 of 11 April 1997[3] on the human rights of persons with disabilities,

Deeply alarmed by the number of mines that continue to be laid each year, as well as the presence of a large number of mines and other unexploded devices as a result of armed conflicts, and thus convinced of the necessity and urgency of a significant increase in mine-clearance efforts by the international community with a view to eliminating the threat of landmines to civilians as soon as possible,

Noting the decisions taken at the Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[6] particularly with respect to Protocol II to the Convention and the inclusion in the Amended Protocol[7] of a number of provisions of importance for mine-clearance operations, notably the requirement of detectability,

Noting the entry into force of the Amended Protocol II to the Convention on 3 December 1998,

Recalling that the States parties at the Review Conference declared their commitment to keep the provisions of Protocol II under review in order to ensure that the concerns regarding the weapons it covers are addressed, and that they would encourage efforts of the United Nations and other organizations to address all the problems of landmines,

Noting the entry into force on 1 March 1999 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[8] and that the Convention has been signed by over one hundred and thirty-five States, that the First Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention was held at Maputo in May 1999 and that measures were taken at that meeting to, among other things, provide assistance for mine clearance and rehabilitation, the social and economic reintegration of mine victims and mine-awareness programmes,

Stressing the need to convince mine-affected States to halt new deployments of anti-personnel mines in order to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of mine-clearance operations,

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[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[2] Ibid., *1996, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/1996/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[3] Ibid., *1997, Supplement No. 3* (E/1997/23), chap. II.

[4] Ibid., *1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[5] Ibid., *1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[6] CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I).

[7] Ibid., annex B.

[8] See CD/1478.

Recognizing the important role that the international community, particularly States involved in the deployment of mines, can play in assisting mine clearance in mine-affected countries through the provision of necessary maps and information and appropriate technical and material assistance to remove or otherwise render ineffective existing minefields, mines and booby traps,

Concerned about the limited availability of safe and cost-effective mine-detection and mine-clearance equipment as well as the need for effective global coordination in research and development to improve the relevant technology, and conscious of the need to promote further and more rapid progress in this field and to foster international technical cooperation to this end,

Recognizing that, in addition to the primary role of States, the United Nations has an important role in the field of assistance in mine action,

Welcoming in this regard the mine-action coordination centres already established under the auspices of the United Nations as well as the creation of international trust funds for mine clearance and mine assistance,

Noting with satisfaction the inclusion in the mandates of several peacekeeping operations of provisions relating to mine-action work carried out under the direction of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat, in the context of such operations,

Commending the action already taken by the United Nations system, donor and recipient Governments, the International Committee of the Red Cross and non-governmental organizations to coordinate their efforts and seek solutions to the problems related to the presence of mines and other unexploded devices, as well as their assistance to victims of mines,

Also commending the role of the Secretary-General in increasing public awareness of the problem of landmines,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General concerning the activities of the United Nations in assistance in mine action,[9] in particular the emphasis on the lessons learned, and the recommendation to improve the emergency preparedness capability of the Organization;

2. *Calls*, in particular, for the continuation of the efforts of the United Nations, with the assistance of States and institutions as appropriate, to foster the establishment of mine-action capacities in countries where mines constitute a serious threat to the safety, health and lives of the local population, also calls for the extension of these efforts to countries where mines are an impediment to social and economic development efforts at the national and local levels, emphasizes the importance of developing national mine-action capacities, and urges all Member States, particularly those that have the capacity to do so, to assist mine-affected countries in the establishment and development of national capacities in mine clearance, mine awareness and victim assistance;

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[9] A/54/445.

3. *Invites* Member States to develop national programmes, in cooperation with the relevant bodies of the United Nations system where appropriate, to promote awareness of landmines, especially among children;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to Governments, regional organizations and other donors for their financial and in-kind contributions to mine action, including contributions for emergency operations and for national capacity-building programmes;

5. *Appeals* to Governments, regional organizations and other donors to continue their support to mine action through further contributions, including contributions through the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action to allow for the timely delivery of mine-action assistance in emergency situations;

6. *Encourages* all relevant multilateral and national programmes and bodies to include, in coordination with the United Nations, activities related to mine action in their humanitarian, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development assistance activities, where appropriate, bearing in mind the need to ensure national ownership, sustainability and capacity-building;

7. *Stresses* the importance of international support for emergency assistance to victims of mines and for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration, of the victims, and also stresses that such assistance should be integrated into broader public health and socio-economic strategies;

8. *Encourages* Governments, relevant United Nations bodies and other donors to take further action to promote gender- and age-appropriate mine-awareness programmes, victim assistance and child-centred rehabilitation, thereby reducing the number of child victims and relieving their plight;

9. *Emphasizes again* the important role of the United Nations in the effective coordination of mine-action activities, including those by regional organizations, and especially the role of the Mine Action Service of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat on the basis of the policy on mine action and effective coordination developed by the Secretary-General in annex II to his report;[10]

10. *Emphasizes* in this regard the role of the Mine Action Service as the focal point for mine action within the United Nations system and its ongoing collaboration with and coordination of all the mine-related activities of the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes;

11. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to develop further a comprehensive mine-action strategy, taking into consideration the impact of the landmine problem on rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, with a view to ensuring the effectiveness of assistance in mine action by the United Nations, and emphasizes in this respect the importance of further multisectoral assessments and surveys;

12. *Emphasizes* in this respect the importance of developing a comprehensive information management system for mine action, under the overall coordination of the Mine Action Service and with the support of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, in order to facilitate the setting of priorities and the coordination of field activities;

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[10] A/53/496.

13. *Welcomes* recent approaches with regard to the establishment of mine-action coordination centres, encourages the further establishment of such centres, especially in emergency situations, and also encourages States to support the activities of mine-action coordination centres and trust funds established to coordinate assistance in mine action under the auspices of the Mine Action Service;

14. *Urges* Member States, regional, governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations to continue to extend full assistance and cooperation to the Secretary-General and, in particular, to provide him with information and data as well as other appropriate resources that could be useful in strengthening the coordination role of the United Nations in mine action, particularly in the fields of mine awareness, training, surveying, detection and clearance, scientific research on mine detection and clearance technology and information on and distribution of medical equipment and supplies;

15. *Emphasizes* in this regard the importance of recording the location of mines, of retaining all such records and making them available to concerned parties upon cessation of hostilities, and welcomes the strengthening of the relevant provisions in international law;

16. *Calls upon* Member States, especially those that have the capacity to do so, to provide the necessary information and technical and material assistance, as appropriate, and to locate, remove, destroy or otherwise render ineffective minefields, mines, booby traps and other devices in accordance with international law, as soon as possible;

17. *Urges* Member States and regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations that have the ability to do so to provide, as appropriate, technological assistance to mine-infested countries and to promote scientific research and development on humanitarian mine-action techniques and technology so that mine-action activities may be carried out more effectively at lower costs and through safer means and to promote international collaboration in this regard;

18. *Encourages* Member States and regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations to continue to support ongoing activities to promote appropriate technology, as well as international operational and safety standards for humanitarian mine-action activities, and in this context welcomes the initiation of the revision of international mine-clearance standards and the development of guidelines for the use of mine-detection dogs and mechanical mine-clearance equipment, as well as the development of an international test and evaluation programme;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the progress achieved on all relevant issues outlined both in his previous reports to the Assembly on assistance in mine clearance and mine action and in the present resolution, including progress made by the International Committee of the Red Cross and other international and regional organizations as well as national programmes, and on the operation of the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action and other mine-action programmes;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Assistance in mine action".

84th plenary meeting
17 December 1999

UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/192
21 February 2000

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 20

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/54/L.70)*]

54/192. Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 on strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 53/87 of 7 December 1998 on safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel, 52/167 of 16 December 1997 on safety and security of humanitarian personnel and 52/126 of 12 December 1997 on protection of United Nations personnel,

Welcoming agreed conclusions 1999/1 adopted by the Economic and Social Council at the humanitarian affairs segment of its substantive session of 1999,[1]

[1] A/54/3, chap. VI, para. 5. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1).

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on protection of civilians in armed conflicts,[2] Security Council resolution 1265 (1999) of 17 September 1999 and the recommendations made therein, the statement of the President of the Security Council of 12 February 1999[3] and the range of views expressed during the open debates of the Security Council on 12 February 1999[4] and 16 and 17 September 1999,[5] on protection of civilians in armed conflicts, and bearing in mind the statements made by the President of the Council on 19 June 1997[6] and 29 September 1998,[7] on protection for humanitarian assistance to refugees and others in conflict situations, as well as the statement made by the President of the Council on 8 July 1999[8] on maintenance of peace and security and post-conflict peace-building,

Recalling the fiftieth anniversary on 12 August 1999 of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,[9] which reaffirmed the need to promote and ensure respect for the principles and rules of international humanitarian law,

Noting with satisfaction the entry into force on 15 January 1999 of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel of 9 December 1994,[10]

Deeply concerned by the growing number of complex humanitarian emergencies in the last few years, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, which have dramatically increased the loss of human lives, in particular of civilians, the suffering of victims, flows of refugees and internally displaced persons, as well as material destruction, which disrupt the development efforts of countries affected, in particular those of developing countries,

Concerned by the increasingly difficult context in which humanitarian assistance takes place in some areas, in particular the continuous erosion, in many cases, of respect for the principles and rules of international humanitarian law,

Strongly deploring the rising toll of casualties among national and international humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed

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[2] A/54/619 and S/1999/957; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1999*, document S/1999/957.

[3] S/PRST/1999/6; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1999*.

[4] See S/PV.4046, S/PV.4046 (Resumption 1), S/PV.4046 (Resumption 1) and Corr.2 and S/PV.4046 (Resumption 2). For the final text, see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year*, 4046th meeting.

[5] See S/PV.3977 and S/PV.3978. For the final text, see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year*, 3977th and 3978th meetings.

[6] S/PRST/1997/34; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1997*.

[7] S/PRST/1998/30; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1998*.

[8] S/PRST/1999/21; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1999*.

[9] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[10] Resolution 49/59, annex.

conflicts and in post-conflict situations, and strongly condemning the acts of murder and other forms of physical violence, abduction, hostage-taking, kidnapping, harassment and illegal arrest and detention to which those participating in humanitarian operations are increasingly exposed, as well as acts of destruction and looting of their property,

Recalling that primary responsibility under international law for the security and protection of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel lies with the Government hosting a United Nations operation conducted under the Charter of the United Nations or its agreements with relevant organizations,

Urging all other parties involved in armed conflicts, in compliance with their obligations under the 1949 Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocols thereto,[11] to ensure the security and protection of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel,

Expressing concern that the occurrence of attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel is a factor that increasingly restricts the ability of the Organization to provide assistance and protection to civilians in fulfilment of its mandate and Charter,

Recognizing the fundamental requirement that consideration be given to incorporating into all new and ongoing United Nations field operations appropriate modalities for the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel,

Emphasizing the need to give further consideration to the safety and security of locally recruited humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel, who count for the majority of casualties,

Welcoming the inclusion of attacks intentionally directed against personnel involved in a humanitarian assistance or peacekeeping mission in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations as a war crime in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, adopted on 17 July 1998,[12] and noting the role that the Court could play in bringing to justice those responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law,

Commending the courage and commitment of those who take part in humanitarian operations, often at great personal risk,

Guided by the relevant provisions on protection contained in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[13] the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies,[14] the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, the Fourth Geneva

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[11] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[12] A/CONF.183/9.

[13] Resolution 22 A (I).

[14] Resolution 179 (II).

Convention of 12 August 1949[15] and Additional Protocols of 8 June 1977[11] and Protocol II to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects of 10 October 1980,[16]

1. *Urges* all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the full and effective implementation of the relevant principles and rules of international humanitarian law, as well as relevant provisions of human rights law related to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel;

2. *Also urges* all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel and to respect and ensure respect for the inviolability of United Nations premises, which are essential to the continuation and successful implementation of United Nations operations;

3. *Calls upon* all Governments and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, in countries where humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel in order to allow them to perform efficiently their task of assisting the affected civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

4. *Strongly condemns* any act or failure to act which obstructs or prevents humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel from discharging their humanitarian functions, or which entails their being subjected to threats, the use of force or physical attack frequently resulting in injury or death, and affirms the need to hold accountable those who commit such acts;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure full respect for the human rights, privileges and immunities of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation and to continue to consider ways and means to strengthen the protection of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation, notably by seeking the inclusion, in negotiations of headquarters and other mission agreements concerning United Nations and its associated personnel, of the applicable conditions contained in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[13] the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies[14] and the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;[10]

6. *Urges* all States to ensure that any threat or act of violence committed against humanitarian personnel on their territory is fully investigated and to take all appropriate measures, in accordance with international law and national legislation, to ensure that the perpetrators of such acts are prosecuted;

7. *Also urges* all States to provide adequate and prompt information in the event of arrest or detention of humanitarian personnel or United Nations personnel, to afford them the necessary medical assistance and

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[13] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[16] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 5: 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.IX.4), appendix VII.

to allow independent medical teams to visit and examine the health of those detained, and further urges all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the speedy release of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation who have been arrested or detained in violation of their immunity, in accordance with the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law;

8. *Calls upon* all States to consider signing and ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;[12]

9. *Reaffirms* the obligation of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel to observe and respect the national laws of the country in which they are operating, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures, falling within his responsibilities, to ensure that security matters are an integral part of the planning for existing and newly mandated United Nations operations and that such precautions extend to all United Nations and its associated personnel;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with United Nations agencies and other relevant international organizations, to compile examples of best practices, obstacles encountered and lessons learned with regard to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel, to ensure that this information is widely disseminated in the field and to include in his comprehensive report to it at its fifty-fifth session on the subject of the present resolution detailed information in this regard;

12. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure that United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation are properly informed about the conditions under which they are called to operate, including relevant customs and traditions in the host country, and the standards that they are required to meet, including those contained in relevant domestic and international law, and that adequate training in security, human rights and humanitarian law, as well as stress counselling, are provided so as to enhance their security and effectiveness in accomplishing their functions, and reaffirms the necessity for all other humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support;

13. *Encourages* all States to contribute to the Trust Fund for Security of personnel of the United Nations system, and welcomes the inclusion of security components in the consolidated appeals to advance the cause of inter-agency security coordination;

14. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen the Office of United Nations Security Coordinator and the need for a full time Security Coordinator to enable the Office to enhance its capacity in the discharge of its duties, in consultation with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and appropriate agencies within the Inter-Agency Standing Committee;

15. *Encourages* all States to become parties to and respect fully their obligations under the relevant international instruments, including the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;

16. *Welcomes* the addendum on the safety and security of United Nations and humanitarian personnel to the Secretary-General's report on strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance

of the United Nations,[17] and requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-fifth session a comprehensive report on the safety and security situation of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel, including an account of the measures taken by Governments and the United Nations in prevention of and in response to all individual security incidents involving the arrest, hostage-taking or death of United Nations and its associated personnel;

17. *Recognizes* the urgency to consult further to address the recommendations contained in the above-mentioned addendum, to that end requests the Secretary-General to submit by May 2000, for its consideration during its fifty-fourth session, a report containing a detailed analysis and recommendations addressing the scope of legal protection under the 1994 Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, and in this regard takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on protection of civilians in armed conflicts[2] and the range of views expressed during the open debates of the Security Council on 12 February 1999[4] and 16 and 17 September 1999,[5] on protection of civilians in armed conflicts.

84th plenary meeting
17 December 1999

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[17] A/54/154/Add.1–E/1999/94/Add.1.

UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/193
18 February 2000

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 48

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/54/L.36)*]

54/193. International Civilian Support Mission in Haiti

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions, in particular its resolution 53/95 of 8 December 1998 on the situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti,

Taking note of Security Council resolution 1212 (1998) of 25 November 1998, in which the Council decided to extend the mandate of the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti until 30 November 1999 and, in particular, paragraph 11, in which the Secretary-General was requested to make recommendations on a viable transition to other forms of international assistance,

Having considered the report presented by the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti to the Economic and Social Council[1] and the recommendations contained therein, and noting with satisfaction the contribution made by the Economic and Social Council,

Welcoming Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/11 of 27 July 1999, in which the Economic and Social Council, *inter alia*, emphasized the need to establish the necessary mechanisms to develop on a priority basis a long-term strategy and programme of support for Haiti,

[1] E/1999/103.

Taking note of the relevant resolutions adopted on the question by the Organization of American States, commending the contribution of the organization to the International Civilian Mission in Haiti, and inviting the organization to pursue its cooperation with the United Nations in Haiti,

Taking into account the recommendations of the Secretary-General contained in his reports on the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti to the Security Council[2] and in his reports to the General Assembly on the International Civilian Mission in Haiti[3] and on the needs assessment mission,[4]

Recognizing the efforts made by the Secretary-General, his representatives, the Organization of American States and its Secretary-General and the group of Friends of the Secretary-General on Haiti and their constant support and contribution to the continuing consolidation of the political, economic and social institutions in Haiti, and supporting fully the efforts already undertaken by the Civilian Mission and the Civilian Police Mission, as well as those by individual Member States,

Encouraged by the efforts made by the people and the Government of Haiti to consolidate democracy and to improve respect for human rights and the rule of law,

Recognizing that the people and the Government of Haiti bear the ultimate responsibility for the reconstruction of their country, in particular for national reconciliation and the maintenance of a secure and stable environment, and taking note of the plan of action developed by the Haitian Government, in particular for the administration of justice,

Taking note of the request of 8 November 1999 from the President of Haiti to the Secretary-General,[5]

1. *Affirms* the will of the United Nations to continue to accompany Haiti in its democratic, economic and social development, in particular during the next crucial period;

2. *Decides*, at the request of the President of Haiti, to establish the International Civilian Support Mission in Haiti to consolidate the results achieved by the International Civilian Mission in Haiti, the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti and previous United Nations missions;

3. *Also decides* that the initial mandate of the International Civilian Support Mission in Haiti will begin at the closing of the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti and continue until 6 February 2001 and that the mandate of the International Civilian Mission in Haiti will continue until the commencement of the International Civilian Support Mission in Haiti;

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[2] S/1999/908 and S/1999/1184; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1999* and ibid., *Supplement for October, November and December 1999*.

[3] A/54/625.

[4] A/54/629.

[5] Ibid., appendix.

4. *Further decides* that the personnel and goods of the International Civilian Mission in Haiti and the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti will be transferred to the International Civilian Support Mission in Haiti, as needed;

5. *Decides*, pursuant to the request of the Government of Haiti, that the International Civilian Support Mission in Haiti shall have, in accordance with the recommendations of the Secretary-General, the following mandate:

(*a*) To support the democratization process and assist the Haitian authorities with the development of democratic institutions;

(*b*) To assist the Haitian authorities in the reform and the strengthening of the Haitian system of justice, including its penal institutions, and to promote the Office of the Ombudsman;

(*c*) To support the efforts of the Government of Haiti to professionalize the Haitian National Police through a special training and technical assistance programme and help the Government to coordinate bilateral and multilateral aid in this area;

(*d*) To support the efforts of the Government of Haiti aimed at the full observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(*e*) To provide technical assistance for the organization of democratic elections and to collaborate with the Government of Haiti in the coordination of bilateral and multilateral assistance;

6. *Underlines* the importance of full coordination and transparency, including among multilateral and bilateral contributors, and, in this regard, decides that the Representative of the Secretary-General and head of the Mission will have overall authority over all United Nations activities in Haiti and, as appropriate, act as the focal point for coordinating the activities of the international community and facilitating its continuing dialogue with key political and social actors in Haiti, assisted by a committee of representatives of police contributors and international donors and in close liaison with the Government of Haiti;

7. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Economic and Social Council contained in resolution 1999/11, *inter alia*, its request that the Secretary-General take the necessary steps, in agreement with the Government of Haiti, and making use of the appropriate United Nations presence there, to develop on a priority basis a long-term strategy and programme of support for Haiti;

8. *Recommends* that the United Nations Resident Coordinator continue to be the Deputy to the Representative of the Secretary-General, that continued use be made of the resident coordinator system, including completion of a Common Country Assessment, and that preparations be made for the United Nations Development Assistance Framework in order to contribute to the establishment of an effective development programme involving all relevant organizations in the United Nations system;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to coordinate with the Government of Haiti and interested Member States on modalities to ensure support from the international community for the electoral processes under way in Haiti, and, in this regard, requests the United Nations Development Programme to continue its work relating to support of the Haitian electoral processes;

10. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to utilize the amounts allocated in the regular budget for the International Civilian Mission in Haiti, under its current mandate, for activities undertaken by the International Civilian Support Mission in Haiti;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a trust fund for the Mission, and invites Member States to make voluntary contributions, which will cover additional costs for the implementation of its mandate;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the Mission to the General Assembly every four months;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti".

84th plenary meeting
17 December 1999

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/194
17 February 2000

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 96

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/54/L.73)*]

54/194. Question of East Timor

The General Assembly,

Recalling all relevant General Assembly resolutions on the question of East Timor,

Recalling also the relevant Security Council resolutions and decisions on the question of East Timor, in particular resolutions 1236 (1999) of 7 May 1999, 1246 (1999) of 11 June 1999, 1262 (1999) of 27 August 1999, 1264 (1999) of 15 September 1999 and 1272 (1999) of 25 October 1999,

Recalling further the Agreement of 5 May 1999 between Indonesia and Portugal on the question of East Timor and the Agreements between the United Nations, Indonesia and Portugal of the same date regarding the modalities for the popular consultation of the East Timorese people through a direct ballot and security arrangements,[1]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

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[1] A/53/951–S/1999/513, annexes I–III; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1999*, document S/1999/513.

[2] A/54/654.

2. *Welcomes* the successful conduct of the popular consultation of the East Timorese people on 30 August 1999, takes note of its outcome, which began a process of transition to independence under the authority of the United Nations, and welcomes the decision of the Indonesian People's Consultative Assembly on 19 October 1999 concerning East Timor in accordance with article 6 of the Agreement of 5 May 1999;[1]

3. *Decides* to conclude its consideration of the item entitled "Question of East Timor" and to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session a new item entitled "The situation in East Timor during its transition to independence".

84th plenary meeting
17 December 1999

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[1] A/53/951–S/1999/513, annex I; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1999*, document S/1999/513.

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/195
17 February 2000

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 162

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/54/L.7/Rev.2)*]

54/195. Observer status for the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision 49/426 of 9 December 1994,

Considering the importance of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources,

Considering also the need, frequently noted by the United Nations, to promote and support every effort towards the conservation of nature,

Taking into account that the main objective of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources is to encourage and assist the international community in conserving the integrity and diversity of nature,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources,

1. *Decides* to invite the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources to participate in the sessions and work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Decides also* that, in future, any request by an organization for the granting of observer status in the General Assembly will be considered in plenary session after the consideration of the issue by the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures to bring to the attention of all the States Members of the General Committee and General Assembly the criteria and procedures laid down by the General Assembly whenever a request is made by an organization seeking observer status in the General Assembly;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

84th plenary meeting
17 December 1999

UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/54/196
14 January 2000

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 97 (*a*)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/54/585/Add.1)*]

54/196. High-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/179 of 18 December 1997 and 53/173 of 15 December 1998,

Taking note of the report of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group of the General Assembly on Financing for Development,[1]

Taking note also of Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/51 of 29 July 1999 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields and cooperation between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions,

1. *Endorses* the report of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group of the General Assembly on Financing for Development,[1] as an important input for the continuation of the process, as it provides the framework and reference for the scope, agenda and form of the final event of the high-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development, as well as for the preparatory process;

2. *Decides* to convene in 2001 a high-level intergovernmental event of political decision makers, at least at the ministerial level, on financing for development, in the context of paragraph 20 of the report of the Working Group;

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 28* (A/54/28).

3. *Also decides* that the high-level intergovernmental event in 2001 will address national, international and systemic issues relating to financing for development in a holistic manner in the context of globalization and interdependence, and, by so doing, will also address development through the perspective of finance; within this overall context, the event should also address the mobilization of financial resources for the full implementation of the outcome of major conferences and summits organized by the United Nations during the 1990s and the implementation of the Agenda for Development,[2] in particular with regard to poverty eradication;

4. *Reiterates* that, as identified in the report of the Working Group, both the preparatory process and the high-level intergovernmental event should involve the participation of all relevant stakeholders;

5. *Decides* to establish an intergovernmental Preparatory Committee, open to all States, to carry out the substantive preparations for the high-level intergovernmental event;

6. *Also decides* that the Preparatory Committee, at its resumed organizational session, based on the results of consultations to be held with all relevant stakeholders in a flexible manner, should consider innovative ways and mechanisms to facilitate the active involvement of all relevant stakeholders in both the preparatory process and the high-level intergovernmental event;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States and in the context of paragraphs 20 and 21 of the report of the Working Group and paragraphs 17 and 18 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/51, to initiate as soon as possible preliminary consultations with all relevant stakeholders, in particular the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization, on the potential modalities for their participation in both the substantive preparatory process and the high-level intergovernmental event, and also requests the Secretary-General to provide the results of those consultations to the Preparatory Committee for consideration at the first part of its organizational session;

8. *Decides* to constitute a Bureau of the Preparatory Committee, which will consist of fifteen representatives of Member States to the United Nations selected according to the principle of equitable geographical representation and will be presided over by two co-chairmen;

9. *Also decides* that the first organizational session of the Preparatory Committee should be held as soon as possible and no later than the end of January 2000 to elect the Bureau, and in this regard requests the President of the General Assembly to begin consultations with Member States as soon as possible;

10. *Requests* the Bureau, *inter alia*, in the context of paragraphs 20 and 21 of the report of the Working Group and paragraphs 17 and 18 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/51 and with the further assistance of the Secretary-General, to continue consultations with all relevant stakeholders on the modalities for their participation, including the possibility of creating a joint task force, in both the substantive preparatory process and the high-level intergovernmental event, and also requests the Bureau to submit proposals to the Preparatory Committee at its resumed organizational session on the modalities of participation of all relevant stakeholders;

11. *Decides* that the resumed organizational session of the Preparatory Committee should be held as soon as possible and no later than March 2000, and, on the basis of the report of the Working Group and the

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[2] Resolution 51/240, annex.

proposals on modalities to be submitted by the Bureau, and taking into account the outcome of the consultations of the Secretary-General, will consider the following questions:

(*a*) The form of the final event, including a possible summit, international conference, special session of the General Assembly or other high-level international intergovernmental forum on financing for development;

(*b*) The venue of the final event;

(*c*) The timing, duration and format of the final event;

(*d*) Clarification of the agenda;

(*e*) Modalities for the participation of institutional stakeholders in both the preparatory process and the high-level intergovernmental event, notably:

(i) The World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization, including, in the last case, participation at the secretariat level and by member and observer States;

(ii) The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the regional commissions;

(*f*) Modalities for the participation of other stakeholders, notably non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in both the preparatory process and the high-level intergovernmental event;

(*g*) The programme of work of the Preparatory Committee;

12. *Also decides* that the first substantive session of the Preparatory Committee should be held in May 2000;

13. *Invites* Member States to consider sending experts to participate in the preparatory process, and encourages bilateral and multilateral donors to facilitate the participation of developing countries in both the preparatory process and the high-level intergovernmental event;

14. *Calls upon* the relevant entities of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the regional commissions, as well as the regional development banks and all other relevant stakeholders, to provide inputs for consideration during the preparatory process;

15. *Requests* the relevant entities of the United Nations system, in accordance with their respective mandates, to take into account the schedule of the Preparatory Committee and meetings of the regional commissions in assisting countries, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in preparing for the discussion on financing for development;

16. *Requests* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to take into account the schedule of the Preparatory Committee and meetings of the regional commissions in assisting developing countries and countries with economies in transition in preparing for the discussion on financing for development;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close consultation with all Member States, to provide the Preparatory Committee and the high-level intergovernmental event with a secretariat commensurate with the level of the event and adequate staff and other resources, further invites the Secretary-General in this context to explore, in consultation with all relevant institutional stakeholders, the possibility of utilizing, in that secretariat, staff from among the stakeholders, as appropriate, and also requests the Secretary-General to make proposals in this regard to the Preparatory Committee at its resumed organizational session in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

18. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution and on the overall work undertaken with regard to the high-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "High-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development".

87th plenary meeting
22 December 1999